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Breeds of Chickens for Meat and Egg Production



Farmers' Bulletin No. 2065

7 U. S. DEPARTMENT, OF AGRICULTURE

THE breeds and varieties of chickens discussed in this bulletin—American, Asiatic, English, and Mediterranean—are the ones most commonly used for the production of food.

The Ornamental and Game classes are described in Farmers' Bulletin

2066, Ornamental and Game Breeds of Chickens.

Persons desiring more detailed information are referred to the American Standard of Perfection, a book published by the American Poultry Association, Inc., Box 968, Oklahoma City, Okla.

This bulletin is a revision of and supersedes Farmers' Bulletin 1506, Standard Breeds and Varieties of Chickens: 1. American, Asiatic, English, and Mediterranean Classes.

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Breeds of Chickens for Meat and Egg Production $^{ imes}$

By poultry specialists of the Animal and Poultry Husbandry Research Branch, Agricultural Research Service

INTRODUCTION

The poultry industry of the United States is mainly concerned with chickens for the production of food. The food may be in the form of eggs or meat, or both. The breeds and varieties of chickens described in this bulletin constitute

the great majority of chickens used for that purpose.

Each breed may comprise one or more varieties, but one character in common is the shape or type of bird. All birds belonging to any one variety have a similar color pattern.

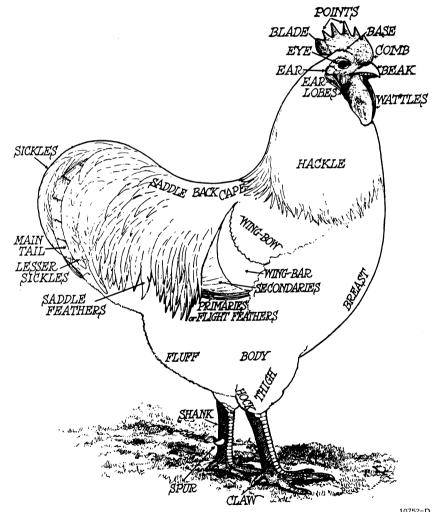


Figure 1.—Glossary chart giving the names of the various sections of a male fowl.

Consumers frequently show a preference for eggs and poultry of a certain color. For instance, in New York City, the largest egg-consuming center on the American continents, the preference is usually for white-shelled eggs; in Boston, on the other hand, the preference is for brown-shelled eggs. American

markets show a preference for poultry with yellow skin. In birds with white plumage or those in which the undercolor is light, the pinfeathers do not show when the birds are prepared for market, and birds without feathers on their shanks are always preferred.

AMERICAN CLASS

The American class includes the following breeds and varieties:

	8
Breed	Variety
Plymouth Rock	Barred, White, Buff, Silver-Penciled, Par-
	tridge, Columbian, Blue.
Plymouth Rock Bantam	Barred, White
Wyandotte	White, Buff, Silver-Laced, Golden-Laced,
	Partridge, Silver-Penciled, Columbian,
	Black.
Wyandotte Bantam	White, Black, Buff, Partridge, Silver-Pen-
	ciled, Columbian, Silver-Laced.
Rhode Island Red	
Rhode Island Red Bantam	Single Comb, Rose Comb.
Rhode Island White	Rose Comb
New Hampshire.	
Jersey Giant	
Java	Black, Mottled.
Dominique.	
Chantecler	White, Partridge.
Lamona.	
Buckeye.	
Holland	Barred, White.
Delaware.	

All birds belonging to the American class are clean legged; that is, they have shanks free from feathers. They also have red ear lobes, and all lay brown-shelled eggs, except the Lamonas and Hollands which produce white-shelled eggs.

Plymouth Rock

The Plymouth Rock is one of the most popular breeds in the United States, largely because it is a bird of good size, with excellent fleshing properties, and when properly bred is also a good layer. The birds belonging to this breed are rather long bodied, fairly broad, with a prominent breast and good depth of body. This breed has a single comb. The standard weights in pounds are: cock, 9½; hen, 7½; cockerel, 8; pullet, 6.

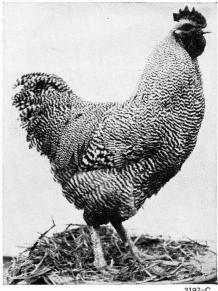


Figure 2.—Barred Plymouth Rock, male.

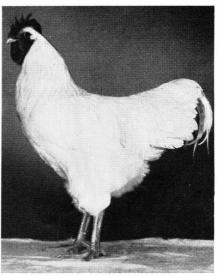
The Barred Plymouth Rock in plumage color is grayish white, each feather crossed by sharply defined dark bars which should be even in width, straight, and extend down to the skin. The light and dark bars of the male are of approximately equal width; in the female the light bars are approximately one-half the width of the dark bars. Each feather should end with a narrow, dark tip, which, with the alternate dark and light bars, gives a bluish cast or shade to the surface color. The barring in the hackle and saddle of the male is narrower than in other sections. Solid black or partly black feathers may occur in practically all strains in this variety, but their appearance does not necessarily indicate impurity of breeding. Two or more solidblack primaries, or secondaries, or main tail feathers are standard disqualifications. The shanks and beak are yellow.



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Figure 3.—Barred Plymouth Rock, female. Note that the black bars on the feathers are about twice as wide as the light bars.

There is a decided tendency for Barred Plymouth Rock males to come lighter in color than the females. In order to produce standard-color males and females from the same mating, the female must have black bars approximately twice as wide as those of the male.



37791-E

Figure 4.—White Plymouth Rock, male.

The White Plymouth Rock is pure white throughout and should be free from black ticking, brassiness, and creaminess. The beak is yellow and the shanks are rich yellow. This breed was developed from a white sport of the Barred variety.

The Buff Plymouth Rock has a rich golden buff surface color and all sections should be of the same shade. The presence of feathers with shafts of a different color from the rest of the feather and of feathers sprinkled with lighter color are of common occurrence but are undesirable. The undercolor should be as similar to the surface color as possible. The beak is yellow, the shanks rich yellow.

The Silver-Penciled Plymouth Rock has a distinctive color pattern which in the male differs considerably from that of the female. The

plumage of the male is silverywhite on the surface over the wing bows and back; the saddle is silvery white striped with black; the hackle is greenish black with a narrow edging of silvery white. The rest of the plumage, including the main tail feathers and sickles, is black or greenish black. The primaries are black, except for a narrow edging of white on the lower edges of the lower webs, and the secondaries are also black, with some white. In the female the general surface color is gray, with a distinct, concentric penciling of dark gray on each feather. The feathers of the front of the neck and the breast are steel gray with distinct black pencilings. The hackle feathers are black, slightly penciled with steel gray, and laced with silvery white. The main tail feathers are black, the two top feathers showing some penciling. The feathers on the back, breast, body, wing bows, and thighs should have three or more pencilings. The undercolor in the male

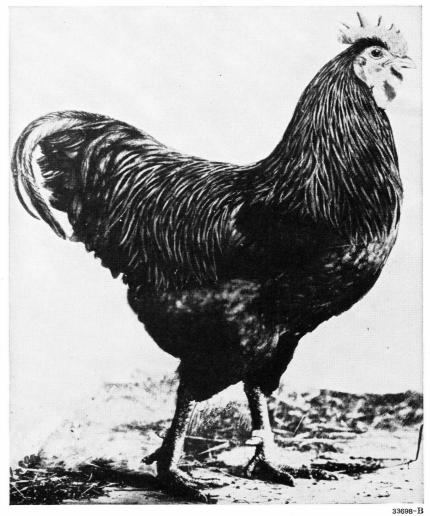
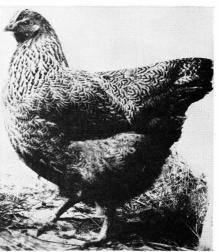


Figure 5.—Partridge Plymouth Rock, male.

is slate, shading to a lighter color toward the base of each feather. The beak is dusky yellow shading to yellow at the point. The shanks are yellow in the male and yellow or dusky yellow in the female. The color markings of this variety are similar to those of the Silver-Penciled Wyandotte and the Dark Brahma.

The Partridge Plymouth Rock is practically the same as the Silver-Penciled Plymouth Rock in color pattern, except that the white of the Silver-Penciled is replaced by red or reddish bay. The hackle of the male is lustrous greenish black with a narrow edging of brilliant red; the plumage in front of the neck is black. The wing bow is brilliant red. The primaries are black, with the lower edges reddish bay, and the secondaries are also black, the outside web being reddish bay, with black at the end of each feather. The main tail feathers are black: the coverts lustrous greenish black edged with rich brilliant red. The back has feathers of lustrous greenish black with a narrow lacing of rich brilliant red. Rich brilliant red predominates on the surface of the upper back. In the female the hackle feathers are black, slightly penciled with deep reddish bay and laced with reddish bay, and the front of the neck and breast are both deep reddish bay distinctly penciled with black. The wing bows are also deep reddish bay penciled with black. The primaries are black with deep reddish bay diagonal pencilings on the lower webs, the upper webs of the secondaries are black, and the lower webs are deep reddish bay penciled with black. The back is also deep reddish bay penciled with black. The undercolor of all sections of both sexes should be slate. The beak is dark horn shading to yellow at the point. The shanks of the male are yellow; of the female, yellow or dusky yellow.

The Columbian Plymouth Rock has mostly white plumage, although the hackle feathers of the male and the neck feathers of the female, and the tail coverts of both sexes, are black with a distinct white lacing. The main tail feathers are black except for the top two feathers in the female, which are slightly laced with white. The primary feathers of the wing are black with white edging on the lower edge of the lower web; the lower edge of the lower web of the secondaries is white, the white extending around



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FIGURE 6.—Partridge Plymouth Rock, female.

the end of each feather and lacing the upper portion of the web. The black in the wings is almost hidden when the wings are folded. The undercolor of all sections in both sexes should be light bluish slate. The shanks are yellow and the beak is yellow with a dark stripe down the upper mandible. The Columbian color is illustrated and some descriptions of it are given in the discussion under the heading "Light Brahma."

The Blue Plymouth Rock male has plumage of a medium shade of slaty blue, over practically all sec-

tions, and each feather is laced with black; in the wing bows, hackle, back, saddle, sickle feathers, and tail coverts the lacing is glossy black. This gives the surface color of the upper sections of the male a very dark appearance. In the female the general plumage color is a slaty blue of even shade, each feather except the primaries having a well-defined, narrow lacing of black. The primaries have an even shade of clear bluish slate. Both sexes have a bluish slate undercolor. The beak is horn shading to yellow at the point. The shanks are yellow in the male and are yellow or dusky yellow in the female.

Plymouth Rock Bantam

Plymouth Rock bantams are recognized in **Barred** and **White** varieties. The shape and color are the

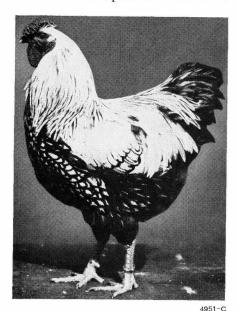
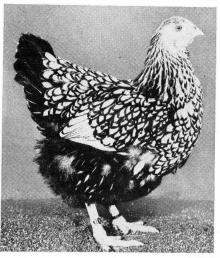


Figure 7.—Silver-Laced Wyandotte, male.

same as in the corresponding large varieties. The standard weights in ounces are: Cock 36; hen and cockerel, 32; pullet, 28.

Wyandotte

The body of the Wyandotte is comparatively round, and the general shape and character of feathering give it an appearance of having



68233-B

Figure 8.—Silver-Laced Wyandotte, female.

a rather short back and being lowset. Like the Plymouth Rock, the Wyandotte is a good general-purpose breed, well adapted for flesh production, and a good layer when bred for egg production. All Wyandottes have rose combs. Many flocks of White Wyandottes produce some single-comb birds. These come from combinations in which both sexes are impure for rose comb. The standard weights in pounds are: Cock, 8½; hen, 6½; cockerel, 7½; pullet, 5½.

cockerel, 7½; pullet, 5½.

The White Wyandotte is white throughout and, like the White Plymouth Rock, should be free from any brassiness or creaminess or black ticking. The beak is yellow; the shanks are rich yellow. This variety is a sport of the Silver-Laced variety.

The Buff Wyandotte is an even shade of buff throughout, identical with the Buff Plymouth Rock in color.

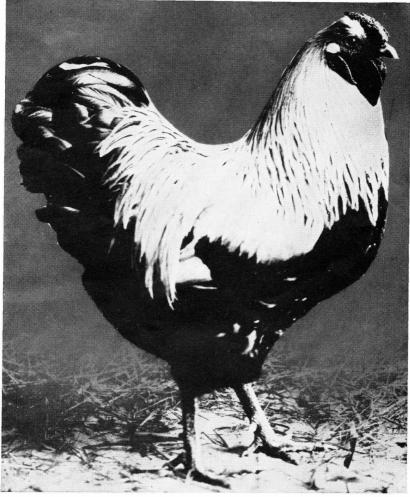
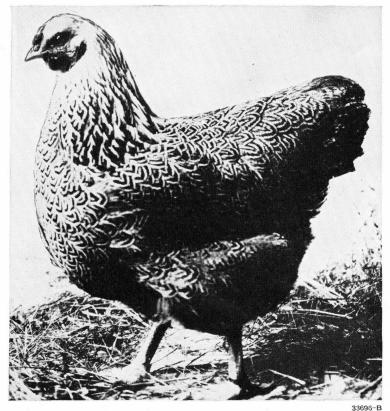


Figure 9.—Silver-Penciled Wyandotte, male.

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The Silver-Laced Wyandotte's striking color combination makes this variety most attractive. The male has a silvery white back; the white saddle feathers are striped with black. The hackle feathers are lustrous greenish black with a narrow lacing of silvery white. The feathers of the body and breast are white, laced with a lustrous greenish black edge. The primaries are black with the lower edges white; the secondaries are also black with the lower half of the lower webs

white and the upper webs edged with white. The main tail feathers are black. The female has white feathers laced with black over the entire body, except the neck feathers, which are black, laced with white; there is also some black in the wings. The primaries and secondaries are practically the same as in the male. In both sexes the undercolor is slate, in the male shading to lighter slate at the base. The Silver-Laced Wyandotte is the parent variety of the Wyandotte fam-



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Figure 10.—Silver-Penciled Wyandotte, female.

ily. The shanks are yellow and the beak is dark horn shading to yellow at the point.

The Golden-Laced Wyandotte has the same general color scheme as the Silver-Laced variety, except that the white is replaced with rich golden bay. The undercolor is slate, in the male shading to red at the base.

The Partridge Wyandotte has the same color pattern as the Partridge Plymouth Rock.

The Silver-Penciled Wyandotte has the same color pattern as the Silver-Penciled Plymouth Rock.

The Columbian Wyandotte has the same color pattern as the Columbian Plymouth Rock.

The Black Wyandotte is black in all sections, showing a greenish sheen free from purple barring. The undercolor is slate. The beak is yellow. The shanks are yellow in the male and yellow to dusky yellow in the female.

Wyandotte Bantam

Silver-laced, White, Black, Buff, Partridge, Silver-Penciled, and Columbian Wyandotte Bantams are recognized as standard varieties of Wyandottes. They have the same shape and color as the corresponding larger varieties. The standard weights in ounces are: Cock, 30; hen and cockerel, 26; pullet, 24.

Rhode Island Red

The Rhode Island Red has a rather long, rectanglar body and appears

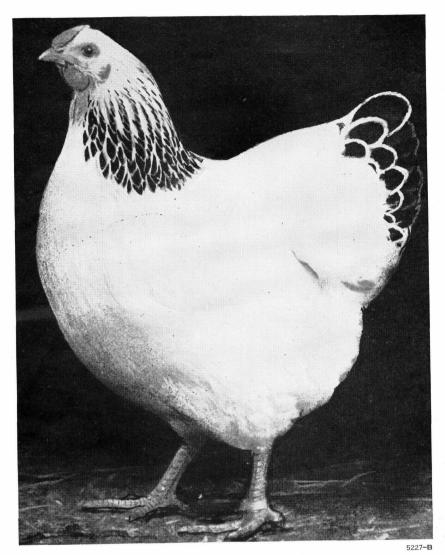


Figure 11.—Columbian Wyandotte, female.

somewhat more upstanding than the Plymouth Rock or the Wyandotte. At the same time, the body has good depth, is wide, and of good length, making a good meat-producing bird. This is one of the most popular of the general-purpose breeds and has made good records in the egg-laying contests. It is slightly smaller than the Plymouth Rock. There are two varieties, Single-

comb and Rose-comb, which are otherwise identical. The standard weights in pounds are: Cock, 8½; hen, 6½; cockerel, 7½; pullet, 5½.

hen, 6½; cockerel, 7½; pullet, 5½.
The plumage color of the Rhode
Island Red is a rich brilliant red.
This color should be as even as possible over the entire surface and
throughout all sections, except that
the lower webs of the primaries are
mostly black, the upper webs of the

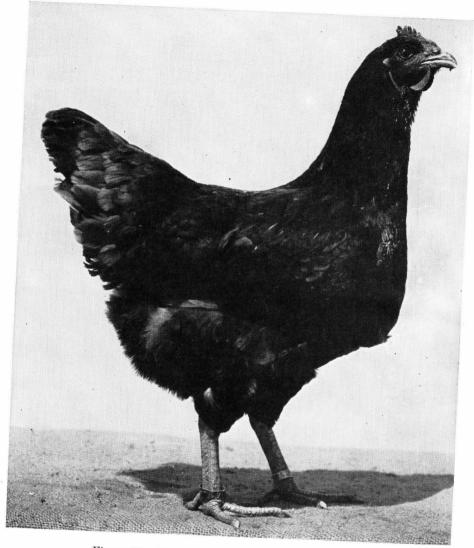


Figure 12.—Single-Comb Rhode Island Red, female.

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secondaries are partly black, and the main tail feathers are black; the black in the wings is covered up when they are folded in natural position. In the ends of the lower feathers on the back of the neck of the female there is also a slight ticking of black. The undercolor of all sections in both sexes should be red and free from a dark or slaty appearance, which is known as

smut. The beak is reddish horn; the shanks and toes are rich yellow tinged with reddish horn.

Rhode Island Red Bantam

The Rhode Island Red has two recognized varieties of bantams, Single-Comb and Rose-Comb. They have the same shape and color as the larger varieties. The stand-

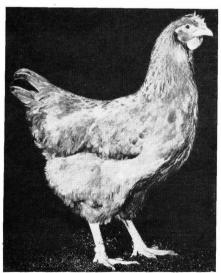
ard weights in ounces are: Cock, 34; hen and cockerel, 30; pullet, 26.

Rhode Island White

The Rhode Island White, of which the **Rose-Comb** is the only standard variety, is identical with the Rose-Comb Rhode Island Red, except that the plumage should be white, free from any tint of brassiness. The beak, shanks, and toes are yellow.

New Hampshire

The New Hampshire was admitted to the Standard in 1935. It was developed in New Hampshire from Rhode Island Red stock, and is the same size as that breed and has a single comb. The body type is blocky, medium in length, deep and relatively broad, with the keel extending well to the front of the This breed was developed breast. as a meat producer and is well adapted for egg production, comparing favorably with the Plymouth Rock and Rhode Island Red. The standard weights in pounds



68229-B

Figure 13.—New Hampshire, female.

are: Cock, 8½; hen, 6½; cockerel, 7½; pullet, 5½.

The general plumage color of the New Hampshire is a chestnut red. with the head of the male a reddish bay. The hackle and saddle feathers are a lustrous golden bay. The upper webs of the primaries are medium red and the lower webs black edged with medium red. The main tail feathers are black and the tail coverts black edged with deep chestnut red. In the female the neck is a chestnut red with the lower neck feathers tipped with black: the tail is black edged with chestnut red. The beak is reddish horn, and the shanks and toes are rich yellow tinged with reddish horn.

Jersey Giant

The Jersey Giant is the largest of the American breeds. It resembles the other general-purpose fowls in most of their characteristics although it has not been bred so extensively for egg production as the Plymouth Rocks, W y and ottes, Rhode Island Reds, and New Hampshires. The Jersey Giant resembles the Plymouth Rock in type but is broader, deeper, and longer. The comb is single. The standard weights in pounds are: Cock, 13; hen, 10; cockerel, 11; pullet, 8.

The plumage of the Jersey Black Giant in all sections is black with a greenish sheen. The undercolor is dark slate. The beak is black, shading to yellow toward the tip. The shanks are nearly black with yellow on the under surface of the feet and toes.

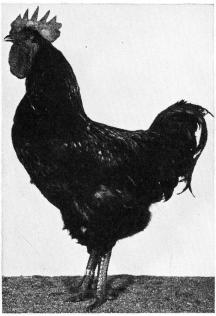
The Jersey White Giants arose as sports of the Black variety and were admitted to the Standard in 1947. They are like the Jersey Black Giants except that the plumage is pure white throughout. The beak is yellow streaked with horn. The shanks and toes are dark willow with the underpart of the feet yellow.

Java

The Java is a bird of good size having a long and deep body with good width of back and a full, wellrounded breast. The comb single. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock, 9½; hen, 7½;

cockerel, 8; pullet, 6½.

The Black Java is black throughout, with a greenish sheen on the surface plumage. Any tendency toward purple barring is undesirable. The undercolor is dull black. The beak is black and the shanks and toes are black or nearly black, shading to willow, and the bottom of the feet and toes is yellow.



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Figure 14.—Jersey Black Giant, male.

The Mottled Java has black plumage mottled with white throughout, the black more plentiful than the white. The undercolor The color of the beak is is slate. horn, shading to yellow at tip, and the shanks and toes are broken leaden blue and yellow.

Dominique

Dominique is somewhat smaller and lighter in body, with a tail somewhat longer and sickles more prominent than those of the other American breeds. The comb is rose. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock, 7; hen, 5; cock-

erel, 6; pullet, 4.

In plumage color the Dominique has a generally bluish or slaty cast; the feathers in all sections are barred with alternate, rather irregular light and dark bars. The markings lack the clean-cut barring effect of the Barred Plymouth Rock barring, but, like the Barred Plymouth Rock, each feather ends with a The male is usually one dark tip. or two shades lighter than the female. The undercolor is slate. This breed and the Java were two of the earliest standard breeds in the United States, but the number of flocks has decreased to very few.

Chantecler

The Chantecler, a general-purpose breed originating in Canada, is not kept extensively in the United States. It has a cushion-shaped comb and very small wattles. The standard weights in pounds are: Cock, $8\frac{1}{2}$; hen, $6\frac{1}{2}$; cockerel, $7\frac{1}{2}$;

The White Chantecler is pure white in all sections. The beak is vellow; the shanks and toes are rich

vellow.

The Partridge Chantecler is similar to the White Chantecler except that its color is like that of the Partridge Plymouth Rock.

Lamona

The Lamona has shorter legs than other American breeds, and it has four toes. In shape it resembles the Dorking, and like the Dorking, produces white-shelled eggs. It was admitted to the Standard in 1933.

The breast is broad and deep, carried well forward, and the back is long and broad. The plumage is white throughout. The comb is single; the ear lobes are red; the beak and shanks are yellow. Standard weights in pounds are: Cock, 8; hen, $6\frac{1}{2}$; cockerel, 7; pullet, $5\frac{1}{2}$.

Buckeye

The Buckeye originated in Ohio, the "Buckeye State." It has a medium-sized pea comb. The plumage color is an even shade of rich mahogany bay in all sections except that the unexposed primaries and secondaries and the main tail feathers contain black. The male sickles and coverts are bay shading into black near the tail. The undercolor is red except for a slate bar in the back feathers. The shanks and toes are yellow; the beak is yellow shaded with reddish horn. Standard weights in pounds are: Cock, 9; hen, 6½; cockerel, 8; pullet, 5½.

Holland

The Holland breed exists in White and Barred varieties and was admitted to the Standard in 1949. The comb is single. The beak, shanks, and toes are yellow. The standard weights in pounds are: Cock, 8½; hen, 6½; cockerel, 7½; pullet, 5½.

The White Holland is pure white in all sections.

In the Barred Holland, feathers in all sections are crossed by coarse and irregular light and dark bars. The male may be one or two shades lighter than the female. The undercolor of all sections is light gray.

Delaware

This breed was named for the State in which it originated and was admitted to the Standard in The comb is single. The plumage is predominantly white. In the male the hackles, sickles, and coverts show irregular indications of black and white barring. The main tail and primaries and secondaries show an irregular indication of black and white barring with black predominating. In the female the hackle shows irregular indications of black and white barring with the entire web edged with white. The coverts, primaries, and secondaries show indications of irregular black and white barring with white predominating. The main tail feathers are black with each feather entirely edged with white. The undercolor is white. The beak is reddish horn; the shanks and toes are rich yellow. The standard weights in pounds are: Cock, $8\frac{1}{2}$; hen, $6\frac{1}{2}$; cockerel, $7\frac{1}{2}$; pullet, $5\frac{1}{2}$.

ASIATIC CLASS

The Asiatic class includes the following breeds and varieties:

Breed	Variety
Brahma	Light, Dark, Buff.
Brahma Bantam	
Cochin	
Cochin Bantam	Buff, Partridge, White, Black.
Langshan	Black, White.

The breeds belonging to the Asiatic class are of a distinctive type, and have large bodies, feathered shanks, and are usually heavy in bone. They all have yellow skin, except the Black Langshan, which has white skin. They all have red

ear lobes and lay brown-shelled eggs.

Brahma

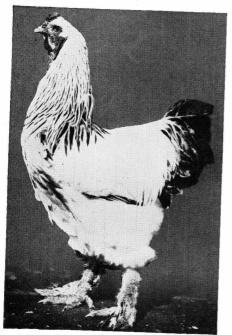
Birds of the Brahma breed are massive in appearance, well feathered and well proportioned. The

male, in particular, has an imposing appearance; the female has graceful lines and is well-balanced. One characteristic of this breed is its pea comb. The standard weights of the Light Brahma in pounds are: Cock, 12; hen, 9½; cockerel, 10; pullet, 8; and of the Dark and Buff Brahma, cock, 11; hen, 8½; cockerel, 9; pullet, 7.

The Light Brahma, in general, is white in plumage color, the hackle feathers are black with a narrow edging of white, the main tail feathers black except for the top two feathers in the female which are slightly laced with white. The small tail coverts are black with

distinct white lacing.

The color pattern is similar to that of the Columbian Plymouth Rock and the Columbian Wyandotte. The feathers on the shanks and the middle and outer toes are white and black, the black feathers on the outer toes being laced with



4943-C Figure 15.—Light Brahma, male.

white. The undercolor of all sections is light bluish slate. shanks and toes are yellow. beak is yellow with a dark stripe down the upper mandible.

The Dark Brahma shows a sexual difference in color pattern, the male being more variegated than the female. The color markings are similar to those of the Silver-Penciled Plymouth Rock Wyandotte. In the male the hackle is greenish black with a narrow edging of silver white, and the plumage in front of the neck is black. The wing bow is silvery white with greenish-black coverts, the primaries black except for a narrow edging of white on the lower edge of the lower web, and the secondaries black except the lower half of the lower web, which should be The neck feathers have white. black centers with a narrow edging of white, the saddle is silvery white with a black stripe in each feather. The tail is black, the sickles and coverts are lustrous greenish black, and the smaller coverts greenish black and white.

The color of the female is entirely different. The head and upper part of the neck are silvery gray, the wing bows are steel gray with soft black penciling, the primaries black with a narrow edge of steel-gray penciling on the lower webs, and the secondaries have the upper webs black and the lower webs steel gray with black penciling extending around the outer edge of the feath-The back is steel gray, with soft black penciling the same as the breast, body, and fluff; the tail is black except for the two top feathers, which are gray on the upper edge. The undercolor of all sections in both male and female should be slate. The beak is dusky yellow shading to yellow at the point; the shanks and toes are yellow.

The Buff Brahma was added to this class in 1929. The color pattern

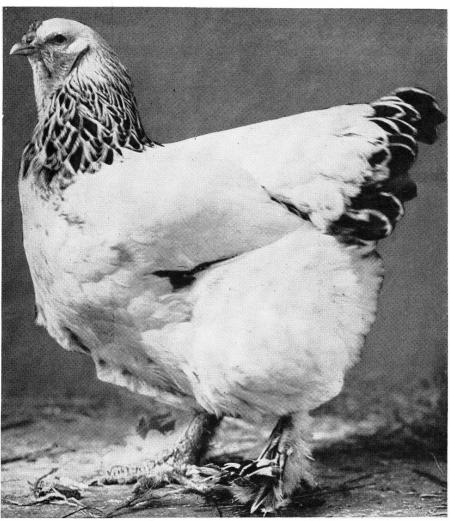


Figure 16.—Light Brahma, female.

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of the Buff Brahma is identical with that of the Light Brahma except that the white sections of the Light Brahma are replaced by golden buff. The beak is yellow with a dark stripe down the upper mandible.

Brahma Bantam

There are three varieties of Brahma Bantams, the **Dark**, **Light**, and **Buff**. They are the counter-

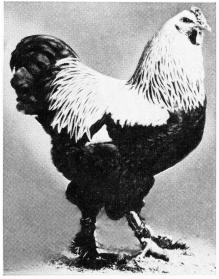
parts of the larger varieties. The standard weights in ounces are: Cock, 38; hen and cockerel, 34; pullet, 30.

Cochin

The outstanding characteristics of the Cochin are its massive appearance and abundantly feathered shanks. The breast of the Cochin is carried low and, in the female,

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there is a very prominent development of the cushion at the base of the tail. The feathering is extremely long and profuse so that the



5882-C

Figure 17.—Dark Brahma, male.

Cochin appears much larger than it really is. All Cochins have single combs. The standard weights in pounds are: Cock, 11; hen, 8½;

cockerel, 9; pullet, 7.

The Buff Cochin is an even shade of golden buff on the surface of all sections, and the undercolor is a lighter buff but should also be even in shade. The presence of feathers having a shaft of different color from the rest of the feathers, and the presence of feathers sprinkled with lighter color are undesirable. The beak, shanks, and toes are vellow.

The Partridge Cochin has a color pattern similar to that of the Partridge Plymouth Rock, the color of the male differing materially from that of the female. The undercolor of all sections of both sexes should be slate. The beak is dark horn shading to yellow at the tip. The shanks and toes are yel-

low in the male and yellow or dusky vellow in the female.

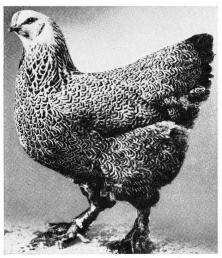
The White Cochin is pure white throughout, free from any foreign color. The beak, shanks, and toes

are vellow.

The Black Cochin is black on the surface, with a greenish sheen free from purple, and the undercolor is dull black. The beak is yellow shaded with black. The shanks and toes of the male are yellow, of the female, yellow or dusky yellow. The bottoms of the feet of both sexes are yellow.

Cochin Bantam

There are the same varieties of Cochin Bantams as there are of the larger birds of this breed, and they have the same shape and color. The standard weights in ounces are: Cock, 30; hen and cockerel, 26; pullet, 24.



5881-C

Figure 18.—Dark Brahma, female.

Langshan

The Langshan differs from the Brahma and Cochin in that the body is shorter but deeper, there is greater length of leg, with moderately feathered shanks; the tail feathers are longer, and the tail is carried higher. The feathering is tighter than that of the Cochin. The Langshan stands up well and is well proportioned, which make it a very graceful bird. The comb is single. The standard weights in pounds are: Cock, 9½; hen, 7½; cockerel, 8; pullet, 6½.

The Black Langshan has a greenish-black surface color and

dull black undercolor. The beak is dark horn, shading to a pinkish tint near the lower edge. The shanks and toes are bluish black, and the bottoms of the feet are pinkish white.

The White Langshan is pure white throughout in plumage color. The beak is light slaty blue shading to pinkish white; the shanks and toes are slaty blue, with pink between the scales.

ENGLISH CLASS

The English class includes the following breeds and varieties:

Breed	
Orpington	Buff
Cornish	Darl
Cornish Bantam	Darl
Dorking	Whi
Sussex	Spec
Redcap.	
A second constitution of the control	

Buff, Black, White, Blue.
Dark, White, White-Laced Red, Buff.
Dark, White, White-Laced Red.
White, Silver-Gray, Colored.
Speckled, Red, Light.

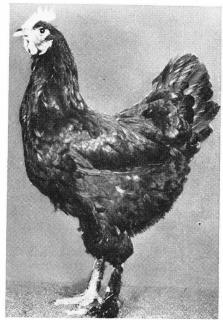
Variety

---- Black.

There is a great diversity among the breeds of chickens of the English class, but they are all of good size and have long been noted for their excellent fleshing properties. With the exception of the Cornish, which has a yellow skin, all these breeds have white skin and red ear lobes. All lay brown-shelled eggs, except the Dorking and Red Cap, which lay white eggs.

Orpington

The Orpingtons are characterized by their size and shape of body, which is long, deep, and well rounded, with full breast and broad back. They are rather low-set and heavy in bone. They are a little more loosely feathered than breeds of the American class, such as the Plymouth Rock, Rhode Island Red, and Wyandotte. The Orpingtons make good table birds and good laying strains have been developed when bred with that object in view. The comb is single. The standard weights in pounds are: Cock, 10; hen, 8; cockerel, 8½; pullet, 7.



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Figure 19.—Black Langshan, female.

The Buff Orpington is an even shade of rich golden buff throughout the surface, and its undercolor

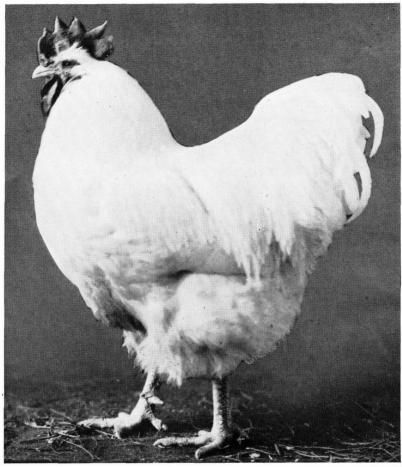


Figure 20.—White Orpington, male.

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is a lighter but even shade of buff. The shade of buff should be as even as possible in all sections. The beak, shanks, and toes are pinkish white.

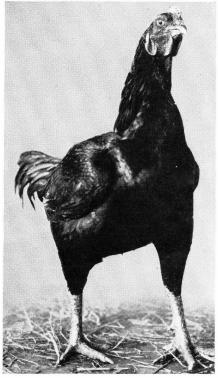
The Black Orpington in surface color is black throughout, free from any foreign color, while the undercolor is dull black. The beak, shanks, and toes are black, and the bottoms of the feet are pinkish white.

The White Orpington is pure white throughout. There should be no indication of brassiness or creaminess in either the surface or undercolor. The beak, shanks, and toes are pinkish white.

The Blue Orpington has practically the same color as the Blue Andalusian. In the male the hackle, back, saddle, and sickle feathers, and the tail coverts are slaty blue, each feather distinctly laced with dark, lustrous blue. The rest of the plumage is a slaty blue which shows a well-defined lacing of darker blue. The female has a slaty blue of even shade, each feather having a clear, well-defined, narrow lacing of darker blue. The undercolor in both sexes is slaty blue throughout, and the skin is white. The beak is horn; the shanks and toes are leaden blue.

Cornish

The Cornish is noted for its close feathering and compact, heavily meated body, which has a distinctive shape. It is exceptionally heavy for its size. The breast of



13581-B

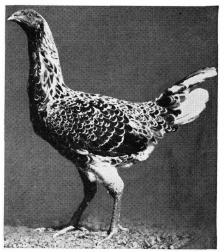
Figure 21.—Dark Cornish, male.

the Cornish is deep and broad, giving the shoulders great width. All Cornish birds have pea combs. The standard weights in pounds of all varieties are: Cock, 10½; hen, 8; cockerel, 8½; pullet, 6½.

cockerel, 8½; pullet, 6½.

The Dark Cornish male has lustrous greenish-black hackle and wing bows; the primaries are black except for a narrow edging of bay on the outer webs; the secondaries have black upper webs; the lower webs are black and bay. The back of the male should be lustrous

greenish black with some dark red intermixed. The tail, lower part of the body, and fluff are black; the breast is lustrous greenish black. In the female the neck is a lustrous greenish black, each feather, having a bay shaft; the wing bows are bright reddish mahogany, each feather is laced with lustrous greenish black, the bay subdivided by one crescentic penciling of black. The primaries are black with an edging of irregularly penciled bay on the outer webs; the secondaries have black upper webs; and the lower webs are bay with laced edge and subdivided by black pencilings. The back is bright reddish mahogany, each feather laced with lustrous greenish black, the bay subdivided by one crescentic penciling of black. The main tail feathers are black except the upper two, which are irregularly penciled with The lower part of the body, bay. fluff, and breast are bright reddish



4953-C

Figure 22.—White-Laced Red Cornish, female.

mahogany, each feather laced with lustrous greenish black, the bay subdivided by one crescentic penciling of black. The undercolor of the male is dark slate, of the female, moderately dark slate. The beak, shanks, and toes are yellow.

The White Cornish is pure white in plumage color. The beak is yellow; the shanks and toes are rich

vellow.

The White-Laced Red Cornish has, in both sexes, rich dark red neck feathers, in the male laced with silvery white and in the female with white. In both sexes the back, lower part of body, fluff, and breast are rich dark red in appearance, each feather being regularly laced with a narrow white lacing. In the male the feathers in the tail are white with red shafts and centers; in the female the tail is red, with each feather laced with white. The undercolor of all sections in both sexes is white. The beak, shanks, and toes are vellow.

The Buff Cornish is an even shade of golden buff throughout the surface with the neck, back, and wing of the male a rich lustrous buff. The undercolor is lighter but should be as near as possible like the surface color. The beak shanks,

and toes are yellow.

Cornish Bantam

Cornish bantams are recognized in **Dark**, **White**, and **White-Laced Red** varieties and the shape and color are the same as those of the large Cornish of the same varieties. Standard weights in ounces are: Cock, 44; hen, 36; cockerel, 40; pullet, 32.

Dorking

The Dorkings are one of the oldest domesticated breeds of poultry. They are characterized by long, broad, deep, and low-set bodies. The White Dorking has a rose comb, whereas the other two varieties, Silver-Gray and Colored, have single combs. The Dorkings differ

from most other general-purpose breeds in that they have five toes and lay white-shelled eggs. The standard weights in pounds of the White Dorking are: Cock, 7½; hen, 6; cockerel, 6½; pullet, 5; of the Silver-Gray and Colored Dorkings: Cock, 9; hen, 7; cockerel, 8; pullet, 6.

The White Dorking is white throughout and should be free from any foreign color. The beak, shanks, and toes are pinkish white.

The Silver-Gray Dorking male has a silvery white hackle, and the plumage on the front of the neck and breast is black. The wing bows are silvery white; the primaries have black upper webs and white lower webs; the secondaries are the same as the primaries, except that in the secondaries there is a black spot at the end of each feather. The back and saddle are silvery white, the tail is black, and the sickles and coverts are greenish black; the lower part of the body and the fluff are also black. In the female the neck is silvery white, each feather having a black stripe extending down its center. The breast is a reddish salmon shading to gray at The wing bows are gray stippled with silvery white; the upper webs of the primaries and secondaries are slate and the lower webs gray. The back is ashy gray, the tail black stippled with gray. The undercolor of all sections in both sexes is slate. The beak is pinkish white streaked with horn; the shanks and toes are pinkish

The Colored Dorking male has a light straw colored neck and hackle; the wing bows are light straw color; the primaries are dark slate; the secondaries have black upper webs, and white lower webs. The saddle feathers are also straw color, with a wide black stripe down the middle of each. The breast, lower part of body, fluff, and tail

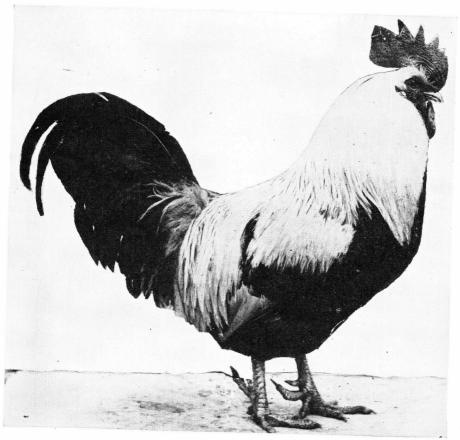


Figure 23.—Silver-Gray Dorking, male.

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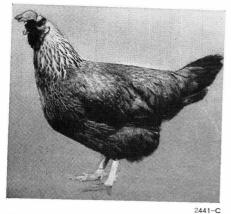


Figure 24.—Silver-Gray Dorking, female.

are black. The undercolor is slate. In the female the neck is black, with

feather; the wing bows are black; the primaries are slaty brown; the secondaries have black upper webs and black lower webs, with a mixture of dark gray. The back of the female is lustrous black; the tail is dark brown; the lower part of the body is black slightly mixed with gray, and the fluff is dull black edged with gray. The breast is a dark salmon. The undercolor of the female is dark slate. The beak is dark horn; the shanks and toes are pinkish white.

Sussex

The Sussex is primarily a table fowl and has a long body, broad at

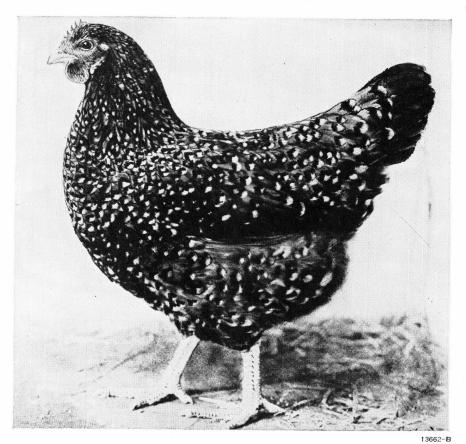


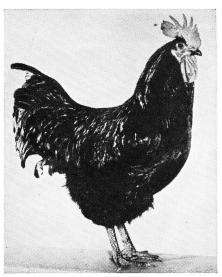
Figure 25.—Speckled Sussex, female.

the shoulders and with good depth from front to rear. The breast is well developed, and the bird has excellent fleshing qualities. Fowls of this breed have single combs, and pinkish-white shanks and toes. The beak is horn colored in the Speckled and Red varieties, but is white shaded with horn in the Light Sussex. The standard weights in pounds are: Cock, 9; hen, 7; cockerel, 7½; pullet, 6.

The Speckled Sussex is mahogany bay in color, each feather tipped with white. In the male the neck is a lustrous mahogany bay, each feather having a black stripe and a white tip. The wing bows also are mahogany bay; the primaries are black and white; the

secondaries have the outer webs bay edged with white, and the inner webs are black edged with white, each feather ending with a white spangle. The back and saddle are mahogany bay; the main tail feathers are black and white; the lower part of the body, fluff, and breast are all mahogany bay, each feather being tipped with white. The female is for the most part mahogany bay throughout, except that the primaries and secondaries are the same as in the male. The undercolor of all sections in both sexes is slate, shading to salmon, the salmon shading to light gray at the base.

The Red Sussex is a rich mahogany in both sexes. The only exceptions to the red color are found



83665-B

Figure 26.—Australorp, male.

principally in the primaries, where the lower webs are black with a narrow edging of red, in the secondaries where the upper webs are black, and in the tail, which is black. The undercolor of all sections in both sexes is red with a slight bar of slate.

The Light Sussex is largely white in color, the head, back, breast, front of neck, body, and fluff, wing bows, and undercolor being white in both sexes. The color markings of this breed are quite similar to those of the Columbian Plymouth Rock. The hackle is greenish black with a narrow edging of silvery white; the front of the neck is white; the primaries are black with a white edging on the lower part of the feather; the main tail feathers are black; the lesser coverts lustrous greenish black edged with silvery white.

Redcap

The Redcap is bred to only a slight extent in North America. It is a bird of medium size with a

fairly long body and a rather prominent breast. A large rose comb is characteristic of the breed. The standard weights in pounds are: Cock, 7½; hen and cockerel, 6; pullet, 5.

The hackle of the male is blue black, each feather being edged with red; the wing bows are mahogany red; the primaries dull black; the secondaries have black upper webs and black lower webs with a broad edging of brown, each feather ending with a bluish black spangle. The back is rich red and black; the tail, lower part of the body, fluff, and breast are black. In the female the neck is black, each feather laced with golden bay; the wing bows are rich brown in color; the primaries dull black; the secondaries black, the lower webs having a broad edging of brown. The back, lower part of body, fluff, and breast are rich brown, with a bluish black spangle at the end of each feather. The undercolor of all sections in both sexes is bluish slate. The beak is horn colored and the shanks and toes are dark leaden blue.

Australorp

The Australorp was developed from the Black Orpington and has the lustrous black plumage of that breed. It is much smaller and more tightly feathered than the Orpington and has been developed as an egg producer. In shape it is less massive than the Orpington, but has a rather long back and good body depth. This breed has a white skin, produces brown-shelled eggs, and has dark slate shanks and toes. The comb is single, the beak is black, and the ear lobes are red. The Black is the only variety of this breed. The standard weights in pounds are: Cock, $8\frac{1}{2}$; hen, $6\frac{1}{2}$; cockerel, $7\frac{1}{2}$; pullet, $5\frac{1}{2}$.

MEDITERRANEAN CLASS

The Mediterranean class includes the following standard breeds and varieties:

	Variety
	Single-Comb White.
	Rose-Comb White.
	Single-Comb Light Brown.
	Rose-Comb Light Brown.
Duran J	Single-Comb Dark Brown.
Breed	Rose-Comb Dark Brown.
Leghorn	Single-Comb Buff.
	Single-Comb Black.
	Single-Comb Silver.
	Single-Comb Red.
	Single-Comb Black-Tailed Red.
	Single-Comb Columbian.
Leghorn Bantam	
Begnorn Bancam	Single-Comb Black.
	Rose-Comb Black.
Minorca	Single-Comb White
Mimorea	Rose-Comb White.
	Single-Comb Buff.
Minorea Bantam	O!
Ancona	(Single-Comb
Ancona	Rose Comb
Spanish	White Freed Block
Blue Andalusian.	Winte-Faced Diack.
Buttercup. Catalana	Poff
Catalana	Duil.

The Mediterranean breeds are smaller than the American, Asiatic, and English classes, and are kept primarily for egg production. All the Mediterranean breeds are classed as nonbroody and all are clean-legged, have white or creamywhite ear lobes, and lay white-shelled eggs. The White Leghorn is the breed generally kept for commercial egg production in the United States.

Leghorn

The Leghorn has been described as a bird of curves, since in outline it has a sweeping curve of neck, back, and tail which is well spread. The breed is noted for the graceful blending of its different sections and its stylish carriage. All Leghorns have yellow or horn beaks, and yellow skin, shanks, and toes. The standard weights in pounds are: Cock, 6; hen, 4½; cockerel, 5; pullet, 4. There are single-comb and rose-comb varieties, and the

shape of the comb is of considerable importance. The single comb in the male should be of medium size and should stand erect, with five regular, deeply serrated points. In the female the front of the first point should stand erect, but the remainder of the comb should droop gradually to one side. The tail should be carried at an angle of 40° above horizontal in the male and 35° in the female. In the rosecomb varieties the comb of the male should be of medium size and square in front, well filled and free from hollows, the spike well developed and extending straight back from the head. The rose comb of the female is medium in size, and in shape is like that of the male.

The Single-Comb White Leghorn is white throughout and should be free from any brassiness or creaminess.

The Rose-Comb White Leghorn is identical with the Single-Comb White Leghorn, except for the rose comb.

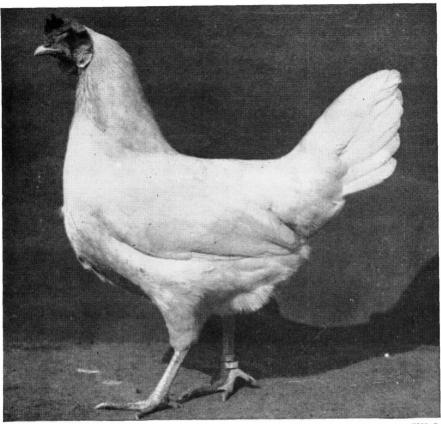


Figure 27.—Single-Comb White Leghorn, female.

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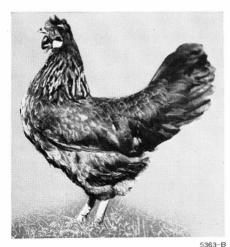


Figure 28.—Single-Comb Light Brown Leghorn, female.

The Single-Comb Light Brown Leghorn male has a hackle of orange color, the lower feathers of which are striped down the middle with black. The breast is black, the wing bows are orange red, the back and saddle are deep orange red, the lower saddle feathers light orange. The feathers of the back and saddle should be free from shafting. The lower webs of the dull-black primaries and secondaries are edged with brown. The feathers over the lower part of the body are slate tinged with brown. The tail is black. The undercolor is light slate. In the female the neck feathers are light orange with a black stripe extending down the center of each feather. The breast is a rich salmon color, and should be free from shafting. The primaries are a slaty brown, the outer webs showing a narrow edging of brown. The secondaries are brown, the outer webs finely stippled with lighter brown. The back, body, coverts, and wing bows are dark brown finely stippled with lighter brown. The main tail feathers are dull black, except the two top feathers which are stippled with lighter brown. The shade of color over the



5364-B

Figure 29.—Single-Comb Dark Brown Leghorn, male.

back, wing bows, and coverts should be even and the feathers free from shafting. The fluff and thighs are slate tinged with brown. The undercolor throughout is slate.

The Rose-Comb Light Brown Leghorn is identical with the Single-Comb variety except in kind

of comb.

The Single-Comb Dark Brown Leghorn male has a dark-red head, a rich brilliant red hackle, back and saddle, and the feathers are striped with a greenish-black stripe extending through the middle of each feather. The wing bows are rich brilliant red, the coverts greenish black, showing as a distinct wing bar when the wing is folded. The

primaries are black, the lower webs edged with brown. The secondaries are black, the lower webs showing edges of brown. The tail, body, breast, fluff, thighs, and wing fronts are black. The undercolor throughout is slate.

The female is of a darker shade than the female of the light brown variety. The neck should be reddish bay, well striped with black. The back, wing coverts, and breast should be black, stippled with a reddish brown. The primaries and secondaries are slaty black, the outer webs edged with brown. The stippling is much coarser than in the light brown female. The undercolor should be dull slaty black.

The Rose-Comb Dark Brown Leghorn is identical with the Single-Comb variety except in shape of comb.

The Single-Comb Buff Leghorn is the same golden-buff as the Buff Plymouth Rock and other buff varieties.

The Single-Comb Black Leghorn should be black in all sections, and should show a lustrous sheen free from purple barring. The undercolor throughout is slate.

The Single-Comb Silver Leghorn male has a silvery white surface color; the head is silvery white, and the hackle is silvery white, each feather having a median stripe of black. The wing fronts and shoulders are black, the bows are silvery white, the lustrous greenish black coverts form a distinct bar across the wing. The primaries are black, except for the silvery white outer edges of the lower feathers. secondaries are black and white; the back, saddle, and lower tail coverts are silvery white. The main tail feathers, sickles, upper tail coverts, breast, body, thighs, and fluff are black. In the female the head and neck are silvery gray, each feather of the latter showing a narrow black stripe. The wing bows and coverts

are silvery white, finely stippled with ashy gray, giving these sections a gray cast. In the primary and secondary feathers the upper webs are dark slate and the lower webs slaty gray. The front of the neck is a light salmon, and the breast is salmon, shading to gray at The back, body, and the sides. thighs are the same color as the wing bows and coverts. The tail is black, except that the upper two feathers are light gray and the tail coverts are gray. The fluff is a light, ashy gray. The undercolor of the female is slate and that of the male light slate.

The Single-Comb Red Leghorn is a rich brilliant red in all sections, both in the male and in the female, and has a red undercolor. The beak is yellow tinged with reddish horn, and the shanks and toes are yellow.

The Single-Comb Black-Tailed Red Leghorn has the same plumage color as the Rhode Island Red. The shanks and toes are yellow; the beak is yellow tinged with reddish horn.

The Single-Comb Columbian Leghorn has the same color pattern as the Columbian Plymouth Rock and the Light Brahma; the shanks, toes, and beak are yellow.

Leghorn Bantam

The Single-Comb White is the only variety of Leghorn Bantam. These bantams are the same shape and color as the large Single-Comb White Leghorns. The standard weights in ounces are: Cock, 26; hen, 22; cockerel, 24; pullet, 20.

Minorca

The Minorca is noted for its length of body, large comb, and long wattles, and is the largest of the Mediterranean breeds. The long back slopes slightly downward from the shoulders to the base of the tail. The tail is carried rather low and is well spread. The breast is prominent and well rounded.

The skin of all varieties of Minorca is white.

In the single-comb varieties the comb is unusually large. In the male it is erect and has six evenly and deeply serrated points. In the female also the comb is large, sixpointed, and the front of the comb folds to one side and the remainder droops to the other side of the head. In the rose-comb varieties the comb of the male is moderately large, square in front, and terminates in a



3618-C

Figure 30.—Single-Comb Black Minorca, female.

well-defined spike. The rose comb of the female is like that of the male. The standard weights in pounds of the Single-Comb Black Minorca are: Cock, 9; hen and cockerel, 7½; pullet, 6½. Of the other varieties of Minorcas the weights are: Cock, 8; hen and cockerel, 6½; pullet, 5½.

The Single-Comb Black Minorca is black with lustrous, greenish sheen over the surface, which should be free from purple barring. The undercolor is dull black. The beak is black, and the shanks and toes are dark slate.

The Rose-Comb Black Minorca is identical with the Single-Comb Black Minorca in color.

The Single-Comb White Minorca should be white throughout,

free from any foreign color. The beak, shanks, and toes are pinkish white.

The Rose-Comb White Minorca is the counterpart of the Single-Comb White Minorca, except for the comb.

The Single-Comb Buff Minorca should be an even, rich, golden buff throughout, as in the case of all buff birds. The beak, shanks, and toes are pinkish white.

Minorca Bantam

The Single-Comb Black is the only variety of Minorca Bantam. The bantams are the same shape and color as the large Single-Comb Black Minorcas. The standard weights in ounces are: Cock, 32; hen and cockerel, 26; pullet, 22.

Ancona

The Ancona is similar to the Leghorn in type but is not produced so extensively. The standard weights in pounds are: Cock, 6; hen, 4½;

cockerel, 5; pullet, 4.

The Single-Comb Ancona and the Rose-Comb Ancona are identical in every respect except in the shape of the comb. The combs of the Single-Comb Ancona and the Single-Comb Leghorn are identical in shape in both sexes, and the comb of the Rose-Comb Ancona is identical in shape with that of the Rose-Comb Leghorn female, but the comb of the Ancona male is slightly smaller than that of the Leghorn male.

The Ancona has lustrous greenish black plumage; certain of the feathers have V-shaped white tips. The proportion of feathers carrying such a white tip varies from one in two to one in five in different sections. The main tail feathers and sickles of the male and the main tail feathers of the female are each tipped with white. The primary and secondary wing feathers also

carry white tips. The undercolor is dark slate throughout. The beak is yellow with the upper mandible shaded with black, and the shanks and toes are yellow.



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Figure 31.—Rose-Comb Ancona, female.

Spanish

The White-Faced Black, the only variety of the Spanish breed, has a very large, pendulous, white face which should be smooth and free from wrinkles. In type the Spanish is very much the same as the Minorca, although it has not quite so long a body and has a somewhat higher carriage of tail. The skin is white. The comb is single and rather large, although not so large as in the Single-Comb Minorca. It has five regular, deeply serrated points, and the blade extends nearly straight back from the head, having little, if any tendency to follow the neck. The comb of the female is erect in front and droops to one side. The standard weights in pounds are: Cock, 8; hen and cockerel, $6\frac{1}{2}$; pullet, $5\frac{1}{2}$. The plumage color should be black throughout with a lustrous, greenish sheen. The undercolor is dull black throughout. The beak is black and the shanks and toes are dark slate.

Blue Andalusian

The Blue Andalusian is similar to the Leghorn in type, but is slightly larger. The comb is single, the comb of the male being some-



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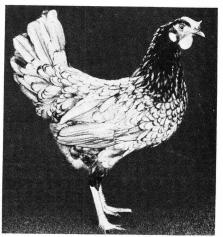
Figure 32.—White-Faced Black Spanish, male.

what larger than that of the Leghorn male, and the blade having a slight tendency to follow the neck. The comb of the female is practically identical with that of the Leghorn female. The standard weights in pounds are: Cock, 7; hen, $5\frac{1}{2}$; cockerel, 6; pullet, 4½. In the male the hackle, back, saddle, shoulder, and sickle feathers, and the tail coverts are a medium shade of slaty blue, each feather laced with glossy black. The rest of the plumage is also an even shade of slaty blue, each feather except the primaries laced with black. The plumage color of the female is a slaty blue of even shade, each feather, except the primaries, having a clear, welldefined, narrow lacing of black. The color is the same as that of the Blue Plymouth Rock. The undercolor of both sexes is slaty blue.

The skin is white; the beak is horn; and the shanks and toes are dark slaty blue.

Buttercup

The characteristic feature of the Buttercup breed is the cup-shaped comb. In type and size Buttercups somewhat resemble Leghorns. The standard weights in pounds are: $Cock, 6\frac{1}{2}$; hen, 5; cockerel, $5\frac{1}{2}$; and pullet, 4. The ear lobe is white. The male and female differ in plumage color. The head of the male is rich brilliant reddish orange, and the head of the female is golden buff. In the male the neck, back, and saddle are lustrous reddish orange. The breast is reddish bay; the main tail feathers are black; the sickles greenish black, edged with reddish bay.



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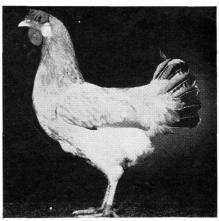
Figure 33.—Blue Andalusian, female.

In the male, the cape feathers at the base of the hackle are dark buff with distinct black spangles. The primaries are black with the lower webs edged with bay; the secondaries have lower webs of bay with black markings; the upper webs are black, with bay markings; the body is light bay; and the fluff is rich bay. In the female the general color is golden buff; on the feathers of the wing, back, and body, and on the lower part of the breast there are parallel rows of elongated black spangles, each spangle extending slightly diagonally across the web. The fluff is buff. The undercolor in both sexes is slaty blue becoming light-grayish buff at the base of the feathers. The beak is light horn. The shanks and toes are willow green and the bottoms of the feet are yellow in both sexes.

Catalana

The Buff variety of the Catalana breed is a dual purpose bird developed in Spain and is noted for its vigor and hardiness. It was admitted to the Standard in 1949. The standard weights in pounds are: Cock, 8; hen, 6; cockerel, $6\frac{1}{2}$; pullet, 5. The comb is single and large with six well formed points; in the male it is erect while in the female the front of the comb and the first point stand erect with the rest of the comb gradually drooping to one side. The plumage of the head in the male is dark buff. The hackle is reddish buff shading to golden buff at the base and the back is reddish buff shading to golden buff at the saddle. The wing bows are reddish The breast, front of neck, wing fronts and coverts, body, fluff, lower thighs, and undercolor are buff. The main tail and sickles are black and the tail coverts and primary wing coverts are black, edged with buff. The upper web of the primaries is buff and the lower web black with buff edging. The lower webs of the secondaries are buff and the upper webs are black, edged with buff. Only the buff shows when the wing is folded.

The plumage color of the female is similar to that of the male except that the head, back, wing bows, and tail coverts are buff. The neck is golden buff and the main tail is black with buff shafts, except the two top feathers which may be edged with buff. In both sexes the beak is light horn and the shanks and toes are bluish slate.



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Figure 34.—Catalana, female,